



PUBLIC NOTICE

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DA 17-263
March 17, 2017

**FOURTEEN-DAY EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPLY COMMENTS
ON NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING REGARDING
NON-GEOSTATIONARY, FIXED-SATELLITE SERVICE SYSTEMS
AND RELATED MATTERS**

IB Docket No. 16-408

Revised Reply Comment Deadline: April 10, 2017

On December 15, 2016, the Commission released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (*NPRM*) regarding non-geostationary orbit fixed-satellite service systems and related matters,¹ which provided that comments were due on February 27, 2017 and reply comments are due on March 27, 2017.

On March 13, 2017, Inmarsat, Inc., Intelsat Corporation, Iridium Satellite LLC, WorldVu Satellites Ltd. d/b/a OneWeb, SES Americom, Inc. and its subsidiary O3b Limited, Telesat Canada, and The Boeing Company (collectively, "Satellite Companies") filed a joint motion to extend the deadline for filing reply comments in IB Docket No. 16-408 by fourteen days. The Satellite Companies argue that a brief extension of the deadline to file reply comments is warranted to permit parties to properly analyze the complex technical propositions raised by initial comments in the proceeding and to consider compromise approaches put forth on certain issues. They also state that the benefits of a brief delay to allow sufficient time for thoughtful analysis by affected parties will outweigh any potential burden.

It is the policy of the Commission that extensions of time are not routinely granted.² Such extensions may be warranted when, among other things, the additional time will serve the public interest. We agree with the Satellite Companies that it is in the public interest to grant a brief extension for the reasons presented in the joint motion. A brief extension will also allow all interested to include their comments on the record at the reply comment deadline, as the Satellite Companies represents a large portion of Part 25 entities affected by the proposed rules. This will

¹ *Update to Parts 2 and 25 Concerning Non-Geostationary, Fixed-Satellite Service Systems and Related Matters*, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 31 FCC Rcd 13651 (2016) (*NPRM*).

² 47 CFR § 1.46(a).

ensure that Commission has a complete record on which to develop its decisions in the proceeding. Such an extension will not negatively affect existing operators or significantly delay Commission action on the proceeding. Accordingly, we grant a fourteen-day extension of time for comments filed in response to the *NPRM*. The deadline for filing reply comments is therefore extended to April 10, 2017.

This action is taken pursuant to authority found in Sections 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and Sections 0.51, 0.261, and 1.46 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 0.51, 0.261, and 1.46.

For further information, contact Stephen Duall, Satellite Division, International Bureau, (202) 418-1103, e-mail Stephen.Duall@fcc.gov.

By the Acting Chief, International Bureau

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